

## A COSTLY BLUNDER.

400,000 Lamps Were Ordered for the Columbian Pageant.

Contractor Offers Worked Hard to Get Them Out.

The Order Was Changed to 40,000, to His Great Loss.

A blunder in connection with the management of the Columbian night pageant, which may cost somebody about \$11,000, was brought to light at the meeting of the Board of Estimate to-day.

Lawyer John Brooks Leavitt appeared before the Board as the representative of B. J. Olfers, who had the contract to furnish the illuminations for the pageant. Mr. Leavitt said that on Aug. 26 his client received a letter from the Art Committee of the Columbian Committee of One Hundred, directing Mr. Olfers to furnish 400,000 "lamps" with tallows and wicks complete. The order was signed by C. G. F. Wable, as Secretary of the Committee. The letter concluded with the following admonition:

"We advise you that you can get these out on time, we must have them."

The size of the order at first dazed Mr. Olfers, but he lost no time in getting to work. He at once contracted for the whole 400,000 lamps, and erected sheds on his premises in which to store the big lot of illuminations as they were furnished.

On Sept. 1, five days after he had received the order, Mr. Olfers got a letter from Mr. Wable saying that there had been a mistake, and that only 40,000 lamps were wanted.

Glasses, which tallows for the 400,000 lamps had already been bought by Mr. Olfers, and the people with whom he had contracted for the other parts of the lamps had been working night and day to turn them out.

Of course there was a great hustling to cancel orders, but Mr. Olfers was successful in getting rid of only 200,000 of the fancy lamps.

The 40,000 were furnished to the Art Committee at \$80 a thousand. There had been \$10,566.50 due Mr. Olfers on the original order.

Lawyer Leavitt announced that should the city refuse to pay the claim he should bring suit against Art Committee-men Belmont, and that he would, although not constituting a quorum of the Committee, passed the resolution ordering the 400,000 lamps.

## SLY HOLE-DIGGERS, THEY.

While the Women Went to Complaint, the Pole Was Put Up.

NEWARK, June 12.—Miss Carrie Dunn initiated Mr. Russell, of Trenton, yesterday in attempting to prevent the erection of poles in front of her parents' property in South street.

The Newark Electric Light and Power Company, without securing permission, started to erect an electric light pole in front of the property.

Men paid no attention. Finally she took a chair, and placing it over the excavation, which was made by the company, refused to move.

The foreman of the workmen then went to the front of the building and began to dig another hole for the pole.

The women decided to follow the foreman and he thought that if they went to the office of the company the work would stop.

Women went to the office, and were referred to the Street and Water Commissioner. When they returned, they found the pole up and the light burning.

## CITY MONEY APPROPRIATED.

\$7,000 for the Old Rapid Transit Board—Money for Parks.

The Board of Estimate to-day authorized the issue of \$7,000 of revenue bonds to pay for building a woman's cottage in Riverside Park.

An issue of \$50,000 of 3 per cent. bonds was authorized to be used in extending the military parade ground in Van Cortlandt Park.

A hearing will be given Capt. Alfred Thompson, who has a claim for \$30,000 against the City for the loss of his uniform, as soon as the Captain is well enough to appear.

On the approval of Comptroller Ritch the Board appropriated \$100,000 of the \$12,000 asked for by the old Rapid Transit Commission to pay rent and clerk hire.

## THEIR PULL WON'T WORK NOW

Aldermen Freeze Out the Politicians' Electric-Light Company.

Since Jan. 1, the Brooklyn Aldermen have ordered 1,800 electric lights for various parts of the city.

Of this number 500 were engaged from the Edison Company and only about 200 from the Citizens' Electric-Light Company.

When the McLaughlins and the Garrys were in power, at least 700 of the lights would have been ordered from the Citizens' Company, owned by the politicians, which had a monopoly of street-lighting contracts south of Broadway.

The Edison Company, however, now has the right to supply electric light to the city wherever its lines extend.

About 500 lights of the Citizens' Company will be turned on instead.

A large force of men is at work daily erecting poles and lines in the district of the Citizens' Company.

## FAVORS TROLLEY ROADS.

Chancellor McGill Says They Can String Wires Without Consent.

THRENTON, N. J., June 12.—Chancellor McGill has rendered an opinion that the electric railway system is nothing more than a modification of the horse railway system, and that the companies operating such roads have the right to erect poles on the edges of sidewalks, and string wires on such poles without the consent of adjacent property owners, and without paying the latter anything in the way of compensation.

The sidewalk, he holds, are portions of the highways and as such are subject to public easement.

## THE SECOND APPEAL.

New Uncle Russell Wants a New Laidlaw-Sage Judgment.

The second appeal of the case of W. A. Laidlaw against Russell Sage came up before the General Term of the Supreme Court to-day. The case was submitted without argument on the printed records.

Laidlaw was a broker's clerk, and in Sage's office he was an opinion that the electric railway system is nothing more than a modification of the horse railway system, and that the companies operating such roads have the right to erect poles on the edges of sidewalks, and string wires on such poles without the consent of adjacent property owners, and without paying the latter anything in the way of compensation.

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## STRATTON TO THE BREACH.

McKane's Republican Friend Aids His Democratic Counsel.

George W. Hoderick Wants to Attend the Constitutional Convention.

Anson M. Stratton, the Coney Island property-owner and close friend of John Y. McKane, appeared as a witness before the Sub-Committee on Contested Seats in the Constitutional Convention in the Brooklyn City Hall this morning.

Although a Republican, Mr. Stratton appeared in behalf of George W. Hoderick, a Democrat, but McKane's counsel, he told the Committee that the ballot at Gravesend was pure, and that the knowledge of no fraud within three election days. He assailed the character of Kenneth R. Sutherland, and told the Committee that he did not believe a word of Sutherland's confession, read by Deputy Attorney-General Edward M. Shepley yesterday.

When questioned about the vote in Gravesend, Mr. Stratton could not explain how 3,000 votes were cast at the general election for the Constitutional Convention. He said that in the Spring election in April, Mr. Stratton, as a member of the Republican General Committee, procured the watchers' certificates last election, which John Y. McKane claimed gave him the right to ignore the standards of justice.

With that famous expression: "Injunctio est in rebus," he said that he issued the watchers' certificates for Mr. Stratton.

Sheriff Building, of Kings County, was also a witness before the Committee this morning. He testified that he issued the watchers' certificates for Mr. Stratton.

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WHOLESALE RETAILERS

FINE CLOTHING

AT POPULAR PRICES.

OLD HERALD BUILDING,

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500 ALL-WOOL STYLISH

Men's Suits,

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ALL WOOL

BOYS'

LONG PANTS SUITS,

Sizes 14 to 19 Years,

\$5.75

BIERMAN, HEIDELBERG & CO.

FORGERY CHARGED NOW.

Peter J. Demarest Again Arrested

In Elizabeth.

ELIZABETH, N. J., June 12.—Peter J. Demarest, who for years was a commission merchant on Reade street, New York, was arrested here this morning.

He was charged with the forgery of a check for \$1,000 on the Irving National Bank, of New York, Demarest gave bail.

But a short time ago he was released from the Elizabeth jail, where he was held charged with appropriating several thousand dollars belonging to his sister-in-law, who had entrusted the money to him for safe keeping.

Demarest is a member of the Elizabeth Athletic Club. He was found of horse racing.

The Cincinnati is the first cruiser built in Brooklyn.

Arranging to Put the Cincinnati in Commission To-morrow.

A crowd gathered on the dock at the Brooklyn Navy Yard this morning to watch the beautiful new cruiser Cincinnati, which is being launched.

During the day Chief Engineer J. H. Chasmar kept steam up in the boiler of the vessel and tested some of the machinery. The official trial of the engines will not take place for two or three weeks.

The trial of Patrolman Bartholomew O'Connor on the charge of using indecent language and pushing students off the sidewalk in front of the station-house, will begin at the conclusion of proceedings in the Rice case.

Lawyer John M. Ward appears for the students and Lawyer Fred House for the policeman.

George C. Dubois, Edward Pfeffer, William B. Beckman, William Prosser, and David C. N. Ward are being tried for the Rice case.

Only two of the witnesses, however, would swear that they had been struck.

A half dozen or more citizens of the neighborhood testified that the night was made hideous by the students.

Sergeant Hussey said he had been a guard to the meeting at the station-house, after having received complaint from the students.

By agreement of both sides, the case was adjourned until next Monday at 10 A. M.

CAN SELL THE BOOKS.

Copyright No Protection for Publisher Alexander.

Judge Shipman, in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, has decided in the case of Maynard, Merrill & Co. against Wm. Haverly Harrison, that the owner of a copyright cannot restrain the sale of a copy of a copyrighted book.

The reproduction of a book, therefore, even though the book be sold in violation of a private agreement between the vendor and the publisher, is not a violation of the copyright.